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LONDON, Jan. 1, 1778

PROPOSALS

FOR

PUBLISHING IN WEEKLY NUMBERS,

MR. CHAMBERS'S

CYCLOPÆDIA;

OR,

UNIVERSAL DICTIONARY

OF

ARTS AND SCIENCES:

WITH

The SUPPLEMENT and MODERN IMPROVEMENTS
incorporated in one ALPHABET.

IN FOUR VOLUMES.

Illustrated with a great Number of COPPER-PLATES.

L O N D O N,

Printed for W. Strahan, J. F. and C. Rivington, A. Hamilton, J. Hinton,
T. Payne, W. Owen, B. White, B. Collins, T. Caflon, T. Longman,
B. Law, T. Becker, C. Rivington, E. and C. Dilly, H. Baldwin, J.
Wilkie, W. Nicoll, H. S. Woodfall, J. Robson and Co. J. Knox, W.
Domville, T. Cadell, G. Robinson, R. Baldwin, W. Otridge, W. Davis,
N. Conant, W. Stuart, J. Murray, J. Bell, W. Fox, S. Hayes,
J. Donaldson, E. Johnson, and J. Richardson.

CONDITIONS.

- I. THE Work will make Four Large Volumes in Folio, handsomely printed with a New Letter on a Fine Demy Paper.
- II. Three Sheets shall be delivered every Week, stitched in Blue Paper, Price Sixpence.
- III. In the Course of the Work will be given *gratis*, the Plates formerly engraved for the CYCLOPÆDIA and SUPPLEMENT, with Others, to illustrate the Improvements made in the present Edition.
- IV. Number I. will be published on Saturday, January 31, 1778, with which will be given a New and Elegant Frontispiece, designed by Dodd, and engraved by Cook.
- V. The subsequent Numbers will be regularly published every Week, till the Work is completed.



ADVERTISEMENT.

THE utility of compilations which contain an Abstract of Universal Science arranged in alphabetical order, is so generally allowed, that it is needless to say any thing in recommendation of the design and plan of the work now offered to the public.—Mr. CHAMBERS'S DICTIONARY has long maintained distinguished reputation, not only in our own country, but in most parts of Europe, where science hath been, in any degree, cultivated and encouraged. The learned authors of the French *Encyclopedie* have testified the high opinion which they entertained of its excellence, by introducing the greatest part of it into their celebrated publication; and all works of a similar kind published in this kingdom, for several years past, have been, for the most part, abridgments of this Dictionary, with very few alterations or additions.

The Proprietors of this work, apprized of its importance and value, and desirous that it should be as complete as possible, some years ago procured a SUPPLEMENT to be added to the *Dictionary of Mr. Chambers*, containing Articles, which had been wholly omitted or imperfectly discussed in the original Work.

The sale has answered their expectations; and they have considered this circumstance as a pleasing evidence of the approbation with which the public hath honoured their endeavours of contributing to the information and improvement of mankind.—Thus encouraged, they have kept in view the enlargement and progress of science; and they have been anxious, that a work, which has been already so highly honoured, should continue to deserve acceptance and esteem, by receiving every correction and improvement which the progressive and advanced state of science requires.

They have, therefore, for several years, at a considerable expence, engaged different persons in collecting materials for this purpose; and have now the satisfaction to inform the public, that the work is in such forwardness as to allow their beginning to publish at the time mentioned in the Proposals.

The Proprietors are happy in declaring, that the plan upon which this work is conducted will not require the addition of another volume, nor be attended with any considerable advance of price to the purchasers.

As it is proposed, when the work is finished, to annex a particular account of the additions and improvements that shall have been made
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in it, there is the less necessity for enlarging on the subject at present; especially as the mode of publication will give the purchasers who are acquainted with the original work, an opportunity of judging for themselves.—Something, however, it may be proper to observe concerning the present edition.

Next to the careful insertion of every modern discovery and invention, a principal object has been to incorporate the *Supplement* with the *Original Work*, so as to render the whole an uniform System of Literature and Science.—It is likewise proposed to exclude obsolete science, to retrench superfluous matter, to abridge articles that are needlessly diffuse; and thus to make room for introducing, from original writers, and from the most approved authorities, as well as from the communications of the friends of learning and science, those improvements that have occurred in the various objects comprehended in this work, since its first compilation, and the subsequent publication of the Supplement.

The number of plates will be considerably increased, in order to illustrate the additions and alterations made in the work; as, in many instances, the view of a figure will supersede the necessity of a laboured description, and better answer the purpose of information.—The Frontispiece is to be considered rather as a matter of ornament than utility, though the Proprietors hope it will appear to be proper and characteristic.

Such is the present edition: and such have been the views and labours of the Proprietors for no inconsiderable number of years.—From the Public there is not the least doubt of obtaining a proper reception, if the work shall appear to be, what we have endeavoured to make it, *A System of Useful Learning*, calculated for the instruction and improvement of our fellow-creatures.

The Editor, who has undertaken to superintend the publication, is very sensible of the great variety of subjects which it comprehends; and that errors and defects may escape his notice, after the most diligent attention: he, therefore, earnestly solicits the assistance and contribution of the friends of literature and science, towards rendering this work as accurate and perfect, as the nature and limits of it will allow.—*Such Communications may be addressed to the Editor, at Mr. Longman's, Bookseller, in Paternoster Row.*



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